HEALTH
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The Urban District of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1944.

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

YEAR 1944.

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR J. L. PARRY, J.P.

Chairman of the Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR A. DICK.

Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR J. EATON.

Councillors:

J. W. ANDERSON. *Died 20/1/45.*
P. T. CLUSKEY.
J. DALEY.
A. DICK.
J. EATON.
W. GREGG,
E. H. HEALD.
F. OSBORNE. *Died 30/1/45.*
J. L. PARRY.
A. RIMMER.
W. WALL.

Medical Officer of Health:

H. G. ST. M. REES,
M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Sanitary Inspector:

H. HARRISON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

Town Hall,
Litherland.

12th November, 1945

To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1944.

My thanks are due to the Staff of the Department for their help and to the members of the Health Committee for their readiness to adopt suggestions for the betterment of health facilities in the area.

Yours obediently,

H. G. St. M. REES,
Medical Officer of Health.

PARTICULARS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1944.

1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	818
Population—Census, 1931	15,987
Estimated, Mid 1944	17,270
No. of inhabited houses (Census, 1931)	3,464
,, ,, ,, on Rate Books, Dec., 1944...	5,015
Rateable value	£109,270
General Rate, 1943/44	14/6
Sum represented by a penny rate	£429

There is no special report to make on the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

UNEMPLOYMENT.—There are no separate figures at the Labour Exchange as to the extent of the unemployment in the district.

BIRTHS.

The number of children born in the district during 1944 was 443; 236 males and 207 females. This gives a Birth Rate of 25·6.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths during the year 1944 was 223; 107 males and 116 females. This gives a Death Rate of 12·9. 109 Deaths of Litherland residents occurred outside the district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year 25 children died who, at the time of their death, had not reached the age of one year.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

During the year, there were two deaths from Whooping Cough, no deaths from Diphtheria, and no deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever. This gives a Zymotic Death Rate of 0·28.

There were 3 deaths from Diarrhœal Diseases under the age of two years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate ..	411	221	190
	Illegitimate ..	32	15	17
	Total	443	236	207

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1944 .. 25·6

Stillbirths	9	2	7

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. 19

Deaths	223	107	116

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population .. 12·9

Deaths from puerperal causes—		Death-rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

*Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	56
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	53
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	93

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	27
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	3

LITHERLAND U.D.C.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population.				Maternal mortality rate.		Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 *live* births	Per 1,000 *total* (live and still) births	
Population							
For birth-rate, 17,270.							
For death-rates							
Mean of 5 years, 1939-1943 ...	21·3	12·9	0·83	1·37	1·57	1·52	78
Year—							
1943	23·7	11·9	0·95	1·25	Nil	Nil	77
1944	25·6	12·9	1·10	1·56	Nil	Nil	56
Increase or decrease in 1944 *on*—							
5 *years' average*, 1939-1943 ...	+4·3	Nil	+0·27	+0·19	—1·57	—1·52	—22
Previous year	+1·9	+1·0	+0·15	+0·31	Nil	Nil	—21

Causes of Death in Litherland Urban District, 1944.

	Causes of Death.	*M.*		*F.*
		107	—	116
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	...	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	...	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	...	—
4.	Whooping Cough	1	...	1
5.	Diphtheria	—	...	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	10	...	9
7.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	2	...	—
8.	Syphilitic diseases	2	...	—
9.	Influenza	1	...	—
10.	Measles	—	...	—
11.	Ac. polio-mpcl: and polio-enceph ...	—	...	—
12.	Ac. inf. enceph.	—	...	—
13.	Cancer of buc.cav. & oesoph. (M.), uterus (F.)	1	...	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	...	8
15.	Cancer of breast	—	...	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites	6	...	4
17.	Diabetes	—	...	1
18.	Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	9	...	13
19.	Heart Disease	26	...	33
20.	Other diseases of circ. system	1	...	1
21.	Bronchitis	6	...	2
22.	Pneumonia	3	...	4
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	3	...	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	0	...	1
25.	Diarrhœa, (under 2 years)	3	...	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	...	1
27.	Other Digestic Diseases	2	...	6
28.	Nephritis	1	...	1
29.	Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	—	...	—
30.	Other maternal causes	—	...	—
31.	Premature Birth	4	...	3
32.	Con. mal: birth inj. infant dis: ...	5	...	3
33.	Suicide	—	...	—
34.	Road traffic acc.	1	...	—
35.	Other violent causes	6	...	1
36.	All other causes	11	...	18

S.D. 55.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1944.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London. Administrative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.			
Births—				
Live	17.6†	20.3	20.9	15.0
Still	0.5†	0.64	0.61	0.42
Deaths—				
All Causes ...	11.6†	13.7	12.4	15.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08
Smallpox...	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths under 1 year of age	46*	52	44	61
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.8	7.3	4.4	10.1
Notifications—	Rate per 1,000 Civil an Population			
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	0.05	0 06	0.04	0 06
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57
Whooping Cough ...	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31
Erysipelas	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37
Smallpox...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.81	0.93
	Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live and Still):—			
(a) Notifications				
Puerperal Fever... ...	10.34	13.13	9.25	3.61
Puerperal Pyrexia ...				14.14†

(b) Maternal Mortality— England and Wales

No. 140. Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141. Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147. Puerperal Infections	Nos.142-6, 148-150 Other.
0.31	0.09	0.28	1.25

Abortion. Mortality per million women aged 15-45. England & Wales.

No. 140 with Sepsis ... 25	No. 141 without Sepsis ... 7

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.
* Per 1,000 related births.
† Rate per 1,000 total population.

2.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

HOSPITALS.

There are no Hospitals in the district, but the Council have agreements with the County Borough of Bootle for infectious disease.

SMALLPOX.

Cases are removed under the above agreement to Liverpool, a retaining fee of £2 per 1,000 of population being paid.

The OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES are removed to the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals, no retaining fee being paid. The patients are not required to contribute towards the cost of treatment, and the accommodation is not limited.

No action has been taken or advised with the object of securing that the Hospital accommodation is utilised to the best extent, or to shorten the period of stay of uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever. Cases have been treated at home where there have been facilities for isolation and suitable nursing.

No new methods have been adopted for the selection of individual cases for which admission to Hospitals is most imperative, nor any new decision as to the admission of cases of diseases such as Measles or Whooping Cough.

No arrangements are in force for hospitalisation of minor infectious disease, such as Measles. While the need for hospital treatment arises but rarely in these cases, it is occasionally imperative, and when this occurs great difficulty is found in obtaining admission of the patient to hospital.

An epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough occurred in the early months of the year. Both diseases appeared in mild form.

TUBERCULOSIS.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council, the Tuberculosis Dispensary being situated at "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool and Bootle Hospitals are available.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives on the County Council Register and practising in the district. There are no Health Visitors, Nurses or Midwives employed by or assisted by the Local Authority.

GENERAL MEDICAL. GENERAL SURGICAL.

These cases are removed to the General Hospitals of Liverpool, Bootle and Waterloo.

CHILDREN.

The above Hospitals are used, also the Liverpool Children's Hospital.

Venereal Diseases.

Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool Voluntary Hospitals.

There are no Poor Law or other Institutions in the district.

Maternity Mortality.

No special arrangements have been made for the investigation of maternal deaths, and cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia; this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious diseases the Motor Ambulances of the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals.

(b) For non-infectious cases, accident and maternity cases the Motor Ambulances of:—Lancashire Public Assistance Committee, Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Subscribers) Ambulance, and the Council Ambulance.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council. The Clinic is situated at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland, and provides for:—

Maternity and Child Welfare. Consultation and treatment.

School Clinic. Dental, orthopædic and minor ailments.

The times of opening are as follows:—

Monday	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday	10-0 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Thursday	9-15 a.m. to 12-15 p.m.;	2 to 4 p.m.
Friday	9-0 a.m. to 12 noon.	

There is no Artificial Light Clinic; or Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

A Day Nursery was opened on April 10th, 1943, to accommodate 50 children. It has proved a success and has met a war-time need of some urgency. Consequently, an extension was opened on the 21st June, 1944, for 40 children. The Nursery is open from Monday to Friday at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children of the age of 6 months to 5 years are accepted.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Two District Nurses (Litherland District Nursing Association) visit on request of the Medical Practitioners by arrangement with the District Nursing Association. There is no financial obligation to the Council.

The Local Authority contributes to the Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Scheme) in connection with the Council employees, also to the Bootle General Hospital and the Waterloo General Hospital.

Health Education.

Health Posters have been displayed, and frequently changed, on the late Empire Marketing Boards.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Sputum.—These specimens are sent direct to Lancashire County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, by Medical Practitioners.

Blood, Throat Swabs, etc.—Sent direct by Medical Practitioners to Liverpool University, Bacteriological Department.

Milk.—Nineteen samples were submitted to Liverpool University.

3.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The water supply is obtained from the City of Liverpool; the chief source is Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. The water is excellent in quality, and there is a constant supply for all purposes. The number of houses supplied direct from the public mains is approximately 5,015. There has been no analysis during the year, and there have been no complaints of contamination. The whole of the dwelling-houses are supplied from the public water mains direct to the houses.

Drainage and Sewage.

The sewage (which is dealt with on the combined system) is discharged without treatment into the River Mersey.

Rivers and Streams.

No action has been necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams and no new works have been established to cause pollution.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1944:—

Privy Middens—

No. of Middens	One.
No. of Closets attached to these Middens ...	One.
No. of Pail Closets	Nil.
No. of Houses with Fresh Water Closets ...	5,014
No. of Waste Water Closets	Nil.

Scavenging.

This work was transferred during 1942 from the Surveyor's Department to the Health Department, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and is working satisfactorily. Refuse is conveyed by motor vehicles to the Council's tips, situated in Beach Road and Hawthorne Road, Litherland.

Sanitary Inspections during 1944.

No. of premises visited	1,551
Defects or Nuisances—	
No. discovered	2,680
No. abated	2,577
No. of Notices served—	
Informal	1,005
Statutory	Nil.
Legal Progseedings	Nil.

Offices and Shops Act, 1934.

No statutory action has been necessary; sanitary defects, etc., have been carried out as required.

Camping Sites.

There were no licences issued for camping sites during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools within the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Sixty-four houses were disinfected during the year; 8 Council houses and 56 other houses, by means of spraying with Zaldecide and sulphur candles. One hundred and sixty-eight houses were disinfested for cockroaches, fleas, ants, and crickets.

Schools.

The sanitary condition and the water supply of the schools in the district is satisfactory. The schools have been disinfected after the holidays. There was no closing of the schools as a result of infection during the year.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

There are no Common Lodging Houses; Houses let in Lodgings; Tents, Vans or Sheds, or Underground Sleeping Rooms in the district.

Offensive Trades.

There are three Tanneries and eight Fish and Chip Potato premises in the district; these are inspected from time to time.

Slaughter-houses.

There is only one Private Slaughter-house in the district, and this is a Registered Slaughter-house.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured or sold.

Canal Boats.

Number inspected: None

4.—Housing.

Statistics for the Year 1944.

There were no houses built by the Local Authority, other Local Authorities, or by private enterprise during the year.

Housing Application Forms, 1944.

Housing Application Forms for Council houses are continually being received, both from inside and outside the district.

As a result of enemy action, 300 houses were totally destroyed and many others damaged, which has resulted in overcrowding.

Tenders have been sent to the Ministry for the approval of 198 permanent houses; 225 temporary houses have been allocated. Application has also been made to acquire land for a further 500 houses.

5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milk Shops within the district are periodically inspected, and every effort is being made to produce clean healthy milk.

Nineteen samples were obtained from persons selling milk within the district, and sent for Bacteriological examination.

"Tubercle Bacilli" was negative in eighteen and positive in one sample.

Veterinary inspections are carried out if any animal is suspected, or on a sample of milk showing Tubercle Bacilli.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following samples were obtained in Litherland by the County Sanitary Officer during the year:—

Tea, Cheese, Sugar, Butter, Margarine, and Cooking Fat.

All these samples were reported genuine.

Meat and Other Foods.

The food exposed for sale or prepared in the district has been examined from time to time. The premises and shops have been kept in a cleanly state.

Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.

Eleven samples of milk were submitted to the County Analyst; all samples were reported genuine.

Bakehouses.

There are eight Bakehouses in the district; these are in a sanitary condition, clean and well kept; minor repairs have been attended to

6.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Five hundred and eighty-one cases of infectious diseases were notified, and forty cases were removed to Hospital (see Tables of Notifiable Diseases).

Diphtheria Immunization.

Immunization against Diphtheria has been undertaken by the Local Authority; this is done at the County Clinic, Linacre Road, Litherland, by the Medical Officer of Health on Friday afternoon during school time; 239 cases were completed during the year, each receiving two injections of A.P.T.

Immunization against Diphtheria commenced on 17th May, 1935; during this period 3,563 cases have been immunized; 342 notifications of diphtheria have been received, and of these only 20 had previously been inoculated.

There were no deaths from diphtheria during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

No return cases were discovered during the year, and there were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

Malaria.

There were no cases notified during the year.

Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid).

There was one case notified during the year.

Cancer.

There were 27 deaths from Cancer (10 males and 17 females) during the year, as against 21 in 1943. Private Practitioners and Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool City Hospitals for Radium Treatment if necessary.

Death rate from Cancer was 1·56.

Prevention of Blindness.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary in respect of Tuberculosis employees in the Milk Trade, or to Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925, for removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

General.

There have been no Primary or Re-Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

It has not been necessary to close the schools during the year on account of sickness.

There have been no reports made under Article 17 (7) Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, which refers to cases of Plague, Cholera, Smallpox, or any serious outbreak of disease in the district.

Influenza.

There was no severe Influenza Epidemic during the year.

There were no other diseases or cases of sickness which required special attention.

Whooping Cough.

As a result of suggestions made by me, Whooping Cough Prophylactic and Curative Serum has been made available to Medical Practitioners free of charge. This has resulted in arresting the progress of this disease and shortening the period of infectivity.

Scabies.

Cases in diminishing numbers have been dealt with at the treatment centre at the First Aid Post.

Disinfection.

There were 180 rooms in 66 houses disinfected during the year by means of Formaldehyde Vapour and Izal (Sprayed) after Infectious Disease, including Tuberculosis, 260 articles were disinfected at the Council's Disinfector (a Washington Lyons Type) situated in the Council's yard, Field Lane.

There is no arrangement for bathing verminous persons, etc.

Disinfestation has been carried out at sixty-four houses.

Notifiable Diseases, 1944.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital, and deaths in Hospital during the year 1944 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Cases Notified.													Total Deaths.	Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Years.													Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.
		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over			
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	47	...	1	2	5	3	19	11	6	...	...	...	...	...	13	...
*Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	12	...	...	...	2	2	3	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	*17	...
Enteric Fever, including Paratyphoid	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Measles, excluding German Measles...	369	20	45	61	47	40	146	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	111	28	28	18	17	10	14	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia / Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	30	13	3	4	...	...	2	...	6	...	...	2	...	...	2	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Dysentry...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Erysipelas	8	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	4	...
Malaria— Contracted in this C'try	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Abroad	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease notifiable in district, *e.g.*— Chicken Pox ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Totals ...	581	59	77	85	71	55	186	18	18	4	3	5	..	...	40	...

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and were later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious, and were removed from the register.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

581 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year.

	Cases Notified.									
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Smallpox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	47	34	36	20	48	74	64	38	40	17
Diphtheria & Mem. Croup	12	23	27	36	61	87	37	23	14	45
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	...	25	...	...	1	...	...	1
Erysipelas	8	5	9	6	2	10	6	8	17	9
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Pyrexia ...	...	1	2	...	2	4	5	2	4	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	2	1	5	10	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	1	1	...	3	...	5	3	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia / Influenzal Pneumonia	30	27	6	26	45	21	27	27	36	23
Anthrax	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephal Leth.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Polio-Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding German Measles)	369	185	323	30	370	2	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	111	69	35	84	122	1	...	...	...	...
Dysentry	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	581	348	441	233	661	202	140	104	114	96

Infectious Diseases.

	Cases Removed to Hospital									
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Smallpox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	13	19	16	13	28	50	52	31	32	11
*Diphtheria	17	23	21	38	60	103	49	36	21	45
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever ...	1	1	...	27	...	1	2	1	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	1	3	...
Erysipelas	4	2	4	2	...	4	1	6	15	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	2	2	4	10	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	1	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Encephal Leth.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pnuemonia ...	...	...	1	...	9	...	3	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	1	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pnuemonia	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentry	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...
	40	52	49	89	114	158	109	76	71	60

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious disease and were removed from the register.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944 (Local Register).

AGE PERIODS.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1
15	6	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
20	4	5	...	1	...	3	1	...
25	3	3	1	...	2	2	...	...
35	6	1	...	...	4	2	...	...
45	4	1	...	...	2	1	...	...
55	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	24	12	5	6	11	9	2	1
	36		11		20		3	

Death rate from Tuberculosis Respiratory System per 1000=1·10.

The rate of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was nil. 100 per cent. notification during the year.

There is no evidence of excesive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

No action has been taken or necessary in respect of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, employed in the Milk Trade, or for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

7.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The whole of this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council; there was one case notified during the year.

I again wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Harrison, for his valued assistance, and to tender my thanks to the various members of the Council for considering advice given by me.

Your obedient Servant,

H. G. St. M. REES,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Urban District Council of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector.

1944.

12th November, 1945.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work executed in the Health Department during the year ending 31st December, 1944, together with the particulars of the nuisances abated and improvements effected thereby.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT, NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

During the year 4,040 inspections and re-inspections were made in reference to complaints and housing.

It was necessary in numerous instances, however, to interview and write to the persons concerned, drawing their attention to notices which had not received prompt attention.

There were 1,005 Preliminary Notices and letters, etc., referring to nuisances and general dilapidations served, and in due course complied with.

No Abatement Notices were served during the year.

INSPECTION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.—The food exposed for sale in the district has been inspected from time to time. Meat shops and food preparing places are inspected periodically. All animals slaughtered in the district are examined.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There is one "private" slaughter-house within the district; the number of pigs slaughtered and inspected in the Urban District during the year was seven.

INSPECTION OF MEAT:—

Meat condemned as unfit for human food:—5 cwts. 2 qrs.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Number of cowkeepers on register, 2; number of milk shops (other than cowkeepers), 7. 53 visits were made during the year. On the whole a fairly high standard of cleanliness is maintained, and the health of the cattle is satisfactory.

Four supplementary licences were issued to retail:—

(1) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk (two).

(2) "Pasteurised" Milk (two).

MILK SAMPLES.—Nineteen samples were taken for the discovery of Tuberculosis among cattle; eighteen were reported "negative" to the biological test, and one positive. Eleven samples of milk were also taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938; all samples were reported genuine.

There are approximately 30 cows kept in the district.

FISH FRYING SHOPS AND WET FISH SHOPS.—Eighteen visits were paid to fish frying shops and wet fish shops, which were maintained in a generally satisfactory condition.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Visits have been made where black smoke has been excessive; interviews between engineers and stokers have taken place and advice given.

ASHPITS TO BIN SYSTEM.—The approximate number of movable ashbins at present in use in the district is 5,232. There were no conversions during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—Sixty-four houses were disinfested during the year by means of spraying with Zaldecide, and sulphur candles. Clothing and bedding were taken to the Council's Steam Dininfector. The whole of this work is carriel out by the Council's workmen.

One hundred and sixty-eight houses were disinfested for cockroaches, crickets, fleas and ants. They were treated with Zaldecide successfully.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT (THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943)).—This work has been carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Food's Direction, under the Infestation Order, 1943.

A Foreman and three operatives were appointed to carry out the survey and destruction of rats and mice, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The survey showed that there were five "Major" and one hundred and eighty-one "Minor" infestations. These were pre-baited and poisoned, two hundred and forty-two baiting points being used for the major infestations, with an estimated kill of four hundred and twelve rats. The estimated kill for the minor infestations was five hundred and eleven. The poisons used were Zinc Phosphide, Barium and Arsenic, with baits of sausage rusk, bread mash and wheat soaked.

The infestation was found to be heavier amongst the property damaged by enemy action.

The Sewers.—First and second treatments for the whole district were completed by the end of September, 1944, in accordance with the Ministry's methods, the result of which showed a considerable reduction in the surface infestation. The sewers and drains damaged by enemy action discovered on the survey were reported to the Engineer's Department and dealt with satisfactorily. The district was divided up into five sections, the whole of the manholes were inspected, one hundred and twenty trays were fixed, and three hundred and twenty-four manholes were baited.

CARAVANS.—During the year caravans in twos and threes have been coming into the district and staying for a few days. The Police have given valuable assistance in keeping them under observation until removed.

SUPERVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Seventy-five visits were paid to houses where Infectious Diseases had occurred, and the necessary enquiries made into each case, also a sanitary survey was made of the premises, notices served where necessary for various defects, and work carried out.

Notices to strip and cleanse the walls and ceilings, where necessary, were served , and 9 re-visits were paid to ensure that the work was carried out. The schools have been thoroughly disinfected during the year. The head teachers have been notified regarding children attending the schools where infectious disease had occurred. also after disinfection.

Disinfection and disinfestation of the various Civil Defence and Firewatchers premises, with beds and blankets, etc., has been carried out periodically throughout the year. The Nursery has also been disinfected after minor infectious disease.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT.

Number of houses inspected	1477
Number of re-inspections to houses	2563
Number of visits and re-visits to factories	39
Number of visits to bakehouses	10
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops ...	53
Number of preliminary notices served and letters, etc. ...	1005
Number of visits to offensive trades	8
Samples of milk submitted for backteriological examination	19
Samples of milk taken under Sale of Food and Drugs Act	11
Cases of infection disease visited and reported upon ...	75
Number of houses fumigated	118
Number of rooms fumigated	180
Number of articles fumigated	260
Number of verminous houses disinfested	64
Number of visits to fish frying shops and wet fish shops ...	18
Number of visits to butchers' shops and food preparing places	183
Number of visits to slaughter-house	5
Number of visits to schools	10
Number of visits to stable premises and garages	15
Number of visits re Diphtheria Immunization	18
Number of visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds	102
Rent books inspected	26

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drains tested, repaired or renewed	283
Defective w.c. cisterns, pans, traps, water supply, etc. ...	229
Staircases repaired	19
Defective water supply to houses, etc., new taps, burst pipes, etc.	210
Defective floors in dwelling-houses, etc.	112
Offensive accumulations	23
New ashbins provided	263
Insanitary yard surfaces	53
Walls and chimneys pointed and repaired	209
Defective eaves, gutters, r.w. pipes, etc.	198
New back boilers, storage cisterns and cylinders provided or repaired	70
Defective skirting boards repaired	12
Plasterwork, limewashing and cleansing after infectious disease, etc.	123
Repairs to window sashes and frames, and lighting and ventilation improved	124
Leaky roofs (dwelling houses), etc.	246
New doors and repairs to doors	174
Animals or Fowls kept to be a nuisance	1
Defective wash boilers and structures	16
New sinks or other sanitary fittings	94
Defective fire ranges, jambs, and flues	111
Defective drainer boards	7

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HARRISON,
Sanitary Inspector.

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